

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 106881
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DRAFTED BY EA/EX:HFWILLIAMS;SP
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-----065771 270848Z /17

R 262211Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL PERTH

UNCLAS STATE 106881

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, PDIP

SUBJECT: TAXATION OF USG-OWNED PROPERTY

REF: A)STATE 080758; B) SYDNEY 0560

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TODAY SUPPLIED BUREAU
WITH FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON REAL PROPERTY TAXES IN STATES
WHERE THEY HAVE CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS AND OWN PROPERTY:

NEW YORK: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OWNS TWO CONDOMINIUM
APARTMENTS IN NEW YORK WHICH ARE THE RESIDENCES FOR THE
AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N. AND THE AUSTRALIAN CONSUL GENERAL
IN NEW YORK. ACCORDING TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, THEY PAY
NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAXES BECAUSE THE TAXES ARE
NOT CLEARLY IDENTIFIED AND EASILY SEPARATED FROM OTHER
PAYMENTS SUCH AS MORTGAGE PAYMENTS, INTERESTS, MAINTENANCE,
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ETC. ADDITIONALLY, THEY HAVE NEVER REQUESTED AN EXEMPTION
BUT WERE OF THE OPINION THAT EXEMPTION WOULD BE GRANTED IF
OFFICIALLY REQUESTED.

CHICAGO: AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT OWN ANY REAL
PROPERTY IN CHICAGO.

SAN FRANCISCO: AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT OWN ANY REAL PROPERTY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

LOS ANGELES: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IS SCHEDULED TO REOPEN THEIR CONSULATE GENERAL IN LOS ANGELES IN JUNE, 1978. ACCORDING TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY RECORDS, PRIOR TO CLOSURE OF CONSULATE GENERAL IN LOS ANGELES IN 1976, AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DID OWN PROPERTY FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND THEY WERE EXEMPT FROM PAYMENT OF CALIFORNIA REAL PROPERTY TAXES. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY SAID IT IS THEIR INTENTION TO AGAIN PURCHASE PROPERTY FOR RESIDENCE OF NEW CONSUL GENERAL AND THEY WILL REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION AS BEFORE.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING ABOVE INFORMATION, BELIEVE SYDNEY PROPOSAL TO MAKE REPRESENTATION TO THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO REQUEST EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES IS IN ORDER. DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTIONS PROVIDED ACTION IS COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY CANBERRA. FYI: AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VOLUNTEERED OBSERVATION THAT THEY WERE REASONABLY CERTAIN EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES IN SYDNEY WOULD BE GRANTED IF SUBMITTED THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS OF ACTION TAKEN. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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